

Cuicatec language

Cuicatec is an Oto-Manguean language spoken in Oaxaca, Mexico. It belongs to the Mixtecan branch together with the Mixtec languages and the Trique language.^[3] The Ethnologue lists two major dialects of Cuicatec: Tepeuxila Cuicatec and Teutila Cuicatec. Like other Oto-Manguean languages, Cuicatec is tonal.

The Cuicatecs are closely related to the Mixtecs. They inhabit two towns: Teutila and Tepeuxila in western Oaxaca. According to the 2000 census, they number around 23,000, of whom an estimated 65% are speakers of the language.^[4] The name *Cuicatec* is a Nahuatl exonym, from [^wkʷika] 'song' [teka] 'inhabitant of place of'.^[5]

Cuicatec-language programming is carried by the CDI's radio station XEOJN, based in San Lucas Ojitlán, Oaxaca.

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Phonology

Vowels

The Santa Maria Papalo dialect contains six vowel sounds both oral and nasal:

	Front	Back
<u>Close</u>	i ĩ	u ũ
<u>Mid</u>	e ẽ	o õ
		ɔ õ
<u>Open</u>	a ã	

Consonants

Cuicatec	
Native to	Mexico
Region	Oaxaca
Ethnicity	Cuicatec
Native speakers	13,000 (2010 census) ^[1]
Language family	Oto-Manguean <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mixtecan<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cuicatec
Writing system	Latin
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Either: <div>cux – Tepeuxila</div> <div>cut – Teutila</div>
Glottolog	cuic1234 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/cuic1234) ^[2]
<div><div></div><div>Extent of the Cuicatec language: prior to contact (olive green) and current (red)</div></div>	

		<u>Bilabial</u>	<u>Dental</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>		<u>Glottal</u>
					<u>plain</u>	<u>lab.</u>	
<u>Plosive</u>		p	t		k	k ^w	ʔ
<u>Affricate</u>				tʃ			
<u>Fricative</u>	voiceless		s				
	voiced	β	ð		ɣ	ɣ ^w	
<u>Nasal</u>		m	n				
<u>Rhotic</u>			r, ɾ				
<u>Approximant</u>			l	j		w	

Allophones of the following sounds /β ð ɣ n j t tʃ/ include [b d ɡ~x ŋ ʝ θ ʃ], respectively.

Notes

1. INALI (2012) *México: Lenguas indígenas nacionales* (http://site.inali.gob.mx/pdf/libro_lenguas_indigenas_nacionales_en_riesgo_de_desaparicion.pdf)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Cuicatec" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/cuic1234>). *Glottolog* 3.0. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. The proposal to group Mixtec, Trique and Cuicatec into a single family (none more closely related to one than to the other) was made by Longacre (1957) with convincing evidence.
4. Website of the Comisión Nacional para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas, http://www.cdi.gob.mx/index.php?id_seccion=660, accessed 28 July 2008.
5. Campbell 1997:402)

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